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The Little Mermaid
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The Little Mermaid

adapted by Pam Gems

from the fairytale by Hans Christian Andersen

Colleen Lanki Director
Laura Auffray Costume Designer
Astrid Beugeling Set Designer
Gabriel Kirkley Lighting/Projections Designer
Dylan Coulter and Eli Funk Sound Designers
Julie Ruffell Props Designer
Ally Schuurman Hair and Makeup Designer
Cheyenne Douglas-Ruttan Stage Manager
Mermaid Graphic by Shijun H. Munns, www.shijunart.com

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Our thanks to these Angels who help us present our Season of Theatre!

Cast

Phaydra Gagnon	Undine
Josh Tompke	King Triton
Amanda Thiessen	Queen Pearl
Ashlyn Tegg	Selusine
Nicoal Berg	Merline
Calvin Baker	Prince Florestan
Aaron Froc	King Mawlprat
Mathea Lawrance	Queen Fatua
Karlana DeWolff	Princess Idia/Mini Starfish
Alexis Clift	Princess Serenissima/Jellyfish
Rebekah Brisco	Sea Witch
Beth Gasser	Sea Witch
Luke Stevens	Sea Witch
Bertan Baruh	Scuttle
Serkan Baruh	Scuttle
Eli Moores	Big Starfish
Courtney Kelley	Orca
Taylor Norton	Seahorse
Jessica Milliken	Sea Anemone
Natasha Thompson	Pufferfish/Humble

When: Present day.

Where: In the waters of Georgia Strait and land masses nearby.

Running Time: first act approximately 55 minutes;
second act approximately 55 minutes.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

** Refreshments are available in the lobby **

Children under three not admitted. The taking of pictures and the use of recording devices during the performance is strictly prohibited. Please turn off cell phones, watch alarms and other noise making devices before entering the theatre. Cell phones can be left with house management to receive emergency calls if necessary.

Director's Note

Mermaids. What child has not fantasized about being able to breathe underwater and swim with dolphins and fish? Stories of singing fish-women have always entranced me, and reading Hans Christian Andersen's story makes me feel sad, yet strengthens me. The young mermaid in his story confronts many challenges to pursue what she wants most, going beyond the normal path laid out for her. Andersen's mermaid makes a strong, personal choice – perhaps not a wise choice – but a choice she makes willingly, and she lives with the consequences. She does not have anyone “bail her out” but stands on her own two feet... no matter how much they hurt.

There is darkness in childhood – everyone is bigger and more powerful than you are; Sea Witches and raging storms seem to be in every corner and closet. Of course there is joy and playfulness too – but to deny that the darkness exists is a lie. Andersen's stories stay with us because of their darkness – and because his young protagonists face their fears.

Playwright Pam Gems' version of Andersen's story embraces the darkness of the original tale, and revels in the joy and magic of all who inhabit the earth and the sea. Gems gives us a strong, free-thinking young woman, and we join her in her discovery of what it means to love.

We approached this script as an ensemble, exploring animal and fish movement, the fun of mer-speak, and crazy ways to create the magical worlds the play demands. The action shifts quickly from sea to land to sky – and using pieces of fabric and small props we have worked to build these worlds. We've brought our mermaids close to home – the Strait of Georgia and the Great Pacific Garbage patch...and to a very large mansion somewhere near West Vancouver.

Thanks for sharing this voyage and diving with us into this world of imagination and mermaids.

Colleen Lanki, November 2013

Talk Back Session!

Find out what goes on behind the scenes. Add to your theatre experience by joining the cast and crew after the show for an informative question and answer session.

Give them your feedback; satisfy your curiosity.

Sunday, November 17.

Student Designers

Lighting and Projections Design – Gabriel Kirkley

Designing the lights and projections for this underwater world over the last few months has been a great experience. I've spent countless hours wading through all the underwater footage and After Effects tutorials that I could get my hands on. The results of that are what you see in the show.

The power of projection in theatre is immeasurable - the ability to create different settings, moods, and textures within a single space is an incredible asset in the arsenal of the designer and the director. Hopefully, we've been able to explore and demonstrate in our own small way how revolutionary projection has become. I thank Mark for his patience and skill while we waded through unfamiliar waters, as well as Alana, Garrett and Riley for coming on the journey with us. Finally, the projection design for this show would not have been possible without the generous loans of equipment from the Chilliwack School of Performing Arts - so a big round of applause for them. Enjoy!

Sound Design – Dylan Coulter and Eli Funk

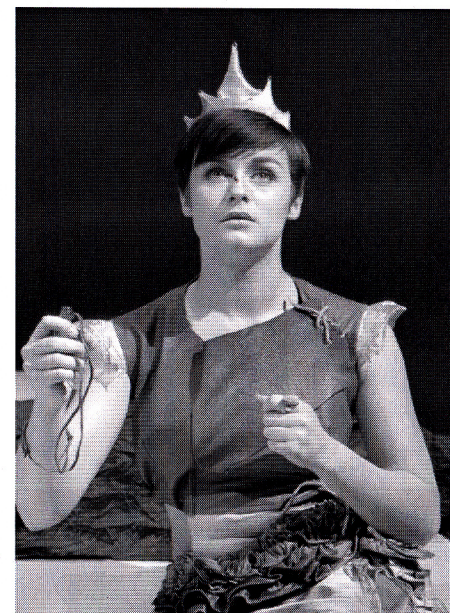
Trying to reconcile a modern west-coast world with the primal ocean floor is a reminder that when the ocean meets the surface it is a collision of very different forms of life. The transformation that centers *The Little Mermaid* demands a magical and provocative score, one that was both exciting and difficult to discover. Whether we are showing you a world barely touched by man, or providing a look into how different eyes see the life of modern humans, we hope that sound can enhance what the visuals brings to life on our stage. Allow yourself to be enveloped in the world of the sea.

Hair and Makeup Design – Ally Schuurman

Mermaids are beautiful. It seems so simple, but this observation has stuck in my head since our very first design meeting. The spirit of a mermaid is entirely lovely. I feel very fortunate that I was able to help this thought shine through. I really tried to adapt the explorative nature of this piece into my designs, basing certain looks off movements I observed during the rehearsal process. I think my favourite part about the hair and makeup for this show is that the techniques are so simple, yet they're tweaked ever so slightly to match the quirkiness of the characters. I really do believe most of the big trends in makeup (filled in eyebrows, contouring and illuminating just to name a few) were originated by the mermaids and sea creatures of the West Coast. Enjoy the show!

Costume Design – Laura Auffray

Laura is a graduate of the UFV Theatre Program and the UFV Fashion Design Program. Combining these two interests in the costume design for *The Little Mermaid* was a natural.



The costume rendering for Undine, the Little Mermaid, and the actual costume in progress.

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Production Team

Production Manager/Program Layout Sandy Tait
 Angel Graphic Savannah Tait
 Technical Manager Astrid Beugeling
 Wardrobe Manager Heather Robertson
 Technician Mark Sutherland
 Head Carpenter Bryan Cutler
 Publicity/Box Office Coordinator Melanie Wickes
 Assistant Stage Managers Christi Dos Santos (costumes),
 Sarah Kopan (props), Nicole Janisch (set)
 Deputy Wardrobe Heather Westergard
 Costume Crew Gill Smith, Susan Shattock
 *Aaron Froc, *Phaydra Gagnon
 Dressers Trudy-Bridgette Smith, Jennifer Steadman
 Hair/Makeup Assistant Katherine Skittrell
 Lighting Operator Reilly Ellis
 Projections Operator Garrett Davis
 Sound Operator Noel Funk
 Running Crew Blake Kimber
 Set/Tech Assistants *Eli Funk, *Cheyenne Douglas-Ruttan,
 Theatre Tech Students
 House Manager *Kyra Esau
 Assistant House Managers Brooke Thompson, Brittany Wiesner
 Video production Claude Dorion
 Concession Manager *Laura Milette
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 Opening Night Host Dr. Jacqueline Nolte,
 Dean, UFV College of Arts
 Opening Night Assistants Friends of the Theatre

The opening reception is prepared by the Friends of the Theatre

* UFV Work-Study Program offers students career-related, on-campus employment as additional financial assistance. The theatre department acknowledges the wonderful contributions made by our students in this mutually beneficial program.



The Little Mermaid Cast and Crew...

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the following businesses and individuals:

Carol and John Blessin Jody Cameron Dawn Beischer

Andrew Smith, AnneLise Woyke, and CSOPA

Amy Lanteigne Amanda Cook Claude Dorion Jim's Pizzeria

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Coming up at UFV

Age of Arousal, by Linda Griffiths

It's 1885, a time of corseted passion and lusty confusion. The typewriter and the suffrage movement are sending things topsy turvy and virtue is barely holding down its petticoats.

Five New Women and one Newish Man struggle to find their way.

January 8-26, 2014 604.795.2814 theatre@ufv.ca for info

Buy tickets online at ufv.ca/theatre

Coming up for the Chilliwack Community Arts Council

39th Annual Chilliwack Christmas Craft Market

November 15-17 at Chilliwack Heritage Park

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For more information visit www.chilliwackartscouncil.com

Coming up for The Chilliwack Players Guild

Anne of Green Gables – The Musical

April 24-May 4

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Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for students and seniors.

Wednesday, April 30, Family Night – tickets are only \$18 each.

Call 604.391.SHOW for tickets,
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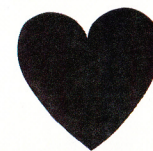
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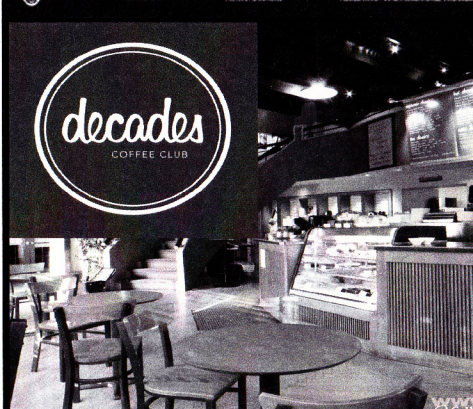


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